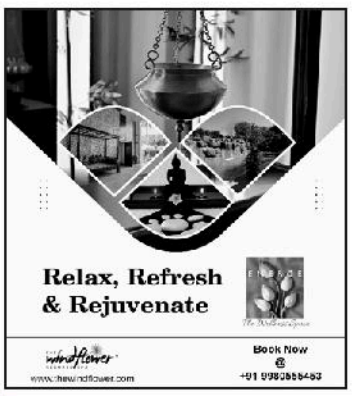

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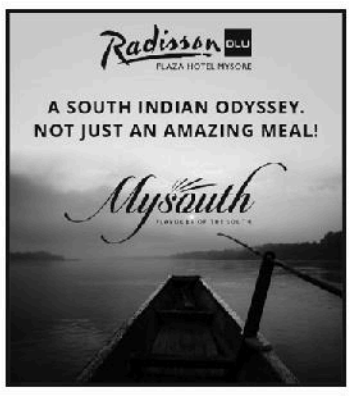


TRUMP WINS

God spared my life for a reason: 78-year-old Donald Trump on landslide comeback as US Prez

Washington, Nov. 6 (Agencies)- On the brink of a landslide win in the US Presidential election, Republican candidate Donald Trump thanked his supporters, describing it as a "magnificent victory for the American people." He also reflected on the July 13 assassination attempt, saying, "God spared my life for a reason."

At 78 years old, Trump is currently projected to secure 270 electoral votes, needed to clinch victory. His opponent, incumbent Vice President Kamala Harris, trails with 224.

Donald Trump, the 47th US President.

Trump described the Republican campaign as the "greatest political movement of all time," adding, "We are going to help our country heal, fix our borders, and we made history for a reason tonight. We have achieved the most incredible political win. I want to thank the American people. I will fight for you and your family with every breath in my body."

Trump noted that the Democrats are now aiming for a massive 315 electoral votes. A key factor in his victory was the Republican sweep of seven swing States.

Donald Trump secured more than 30 States, including Pennsylvania, Georgia, North Carolina, Texas, Florida, Indiana and Kentucky, while Harris has won 19 States so far, with ballot counting ongoing in other regions.

Trump's dominance is further highlighted by his victory in Arizona, Wisconsin, Michigan and Nevada. In addition to his Presidential run, the Republican Party has gained control of the Senate and is leading in the race for the House of Representatives.

During his victory speech, Trump thanked his supporters, running mate J.D. Vance, his wife Melania Trump and his children for their unwavering support throughout a challenging campaign.

He also acknowledged Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla and X, for his vocal support.

(See TRUMP on page 6)

To Our Readers

Turn to Page-6 for Abracadabra titled ***"Jai ho Trump — Return of Donald Trump as US President."*** **—Ed**

Probe into MUDA 50:50 site scam

Lokayukta Police question CM Siddaramaiah for two hours

Mysuru, Nov. 6 (BLU&BCT)- Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah appeared before the Mysuru Lokayukta Police this morning in connection with the investigation into the alleged site allotment scam. The scam involves the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) sanctioning 14 sites in Vijayanagar Third and Fourth Stages to his wife B.M. Parvathi.

This marks Siddaramaiah's first visit to the Lokayukta Office in his home district to face questioning in this high-profile case.

Notably, this is the first time in history that a sitting Chief Minister has appeared before the Lokayukta for inquiry. The CM arrived at Mysuru Lokayukta Office at 10.10 am and faced questioning till 12.07 pm.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah coming out of Lokayukta Office in Mysuru this afternoon.

Ahead of his arrival, security measures were heightened around the Lokayukta Superintendent of Police's Office on Dewan's Road and Krishna Vilas Road, with Police setting up barricades and blocking roads leading to the Office. Local, State and National Media outlets gathered in large numbers to cover the historic event.

CM uses a private vehicle

The Chief Minister arrived in a private vehicle (KA-04-MV-7666), as he opted not to use a Government vehicle. This move likely aimed to avoid any controversy regarding the misuse of State resources.

(See LOKAYUKTA on page 7)

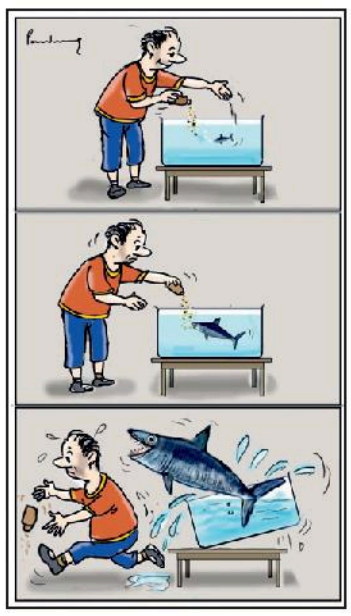
STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

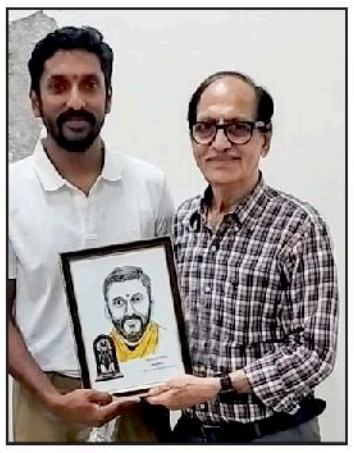
Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Wednesday 6th November 2024

Wins prize in Intl. Cartoon Contest



The prize-winning cartoon of Panduranga Rao.



Panduranga Rao, while in Mysuru recently, felicitated Arun Yogiraj, the Sculptor of Ayodhya Balak Ram idol and presented him with his portrait sketch at Shilpa Kala Shale in city. The portrait sketch also includes Balak Ram's idol.

Mysuru, Nov. 6- Noted Bengaluru-based cartoonist B.V. Panduranga Rao has been awarded the third prize with cash award of 150 Euros (approximately Rs. 14,000) and Diploma at the 9th International Contest Animal Cartoon-2024, organised in Belgrade, Serbia.

The theme of the Contest was 'Sea Animals' and the Juries selected Rao's cartoon for the cash award from 1,532 Cartoons received from 383 participants of 63 countries. He has been presented with the Diploma Certificate and the Cartoon Catalogue in which his prized Cartoon has been published.

The 81-year-old senior cartoonist has already won numerous National and International Awards and his name has been entered 14 times in Limca Book, 14 times in India Book, 13 times in various World Records for his achievements and creations. His works have been exhibited in 40 countries and he is the winner of UNIMED Health Award-2015, Brazil and has won 5 times cash awards in the various Cartoon Contests held in China.

Rao is a retired Engineer from Bhilai Steel Plant and a Hobby Cartoonist for the past 55 years. He was born in Mysuru and studied at Chamundipuram Middle School and Hardwicke High School before continuing his studies in Bengaluru.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

Saint Appar says we can see Lord Siva only if He wills it and enables it. His mercy may be said to be the eyes that make it possible for us to see Him. Those not blessed by His merciful glances cannot call themselves adiyaargal (ardent devotees), said M.A. Manickavelu in a discourse. Images in temples were given to us, so that we could fix His appearance in our minds and later meditate on Him. We first see Him with our eyes and then with our minds. To be able to visualise Him is the first step towards becoming a jnani.

Ambal is worshipped as Sri Chakra. This kind of yantra worship is important in Ambika upasana. Abirami Bhattar, in his Abirami Andadi, talks about worship of nine konas. This is a reference to the nine triangles of the Sri Chakra. Of these, five are Siva chakras and four are Sakthi chakras. The dot in the middle is Ambal. Five triangles face down and four face upwards. The Siva Sakthi union is symbolised here. We must keep our thoughts raised towards Her. Only then will She descend to bless us. Maya, Suddha Vidya, Maaheshwara and Sadasiva cosntitute the Siva aspects.

The *pancha bhutas* ***(five elements) constitute Sakthi. Skin, blood, muscle, fat and bones emanate from Sakthi. Semen, bone marrow,*** *prana* ***(vital energy) and*** *jiva* ***(atma) evolve from Siva. The human body itself can be seen as Sri Chakra, with Ambal residing in the heart of the devotee. Worship of Sri Chakra is*** *anda* ***(cosmos)*** *pinda* ***(body) worship. The ratha of Siva temple in Thiruvarur temple is called*** *Azhi ther. Azhi* ***means chakra. Chakra is important in Siva Sakthi worship.*** *—In The Hindu*

NEWS SPARKLERS

1,308 Selena memorabilia breaks record

Texas: A man is officially a Guinness World Record-holder for his collection of 1,308 pieces of memorabilia related to late pop star Selena Quintanilla.

Andrew Longoria tallied his collection in Lake Jackson and submitted evidence to Guinness World Records, which determined he successfully took the record with 1,308 pieces of qualifying memorabilia.

Longoria's items include albums, tote bags, T-shirts, dolls, officially-branded jeans and more. He said that his collecting habit was inspired by his grandmother, who has amassed an impressive amount of Elvis memorabilia.

He said he became a Selena fan in 1997, when his grandmother bought him the "Dreaming of You" CD two years after the singer's death.

Man paddles pumpkin to break record

Oregon: A man hollowed out his 1,214-pound pumpkin and plunged it into a Washington River for a record-breaking 45.67-mile paddling journey.

Gary Kristensen, has been growing giant pumpkins since 2011. He started converting them into boats in 2013 to compete in the West Coast Giant Pumpkin Regatta, which he has won for the past four years.

Kristensen hollowed out a pumpkin to take on his long-time goal of breaking the Guinness World Record for the longest paddling journey by pumpkin boat.

His 45.67-mile journey, which took him more than 26 hours, aimed to break the previous record of about 39 miles.

Kristensen used a camera mounted to a broomstick to record his journey and printed the words "it's real" on the side of the pumpkin to answer the most obvious question that might have been asked by curious onlookers.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Timely vaccinations protect children from serious diseases and contribute to community health.

By Dr. Bhuvaneshwar U S - Paediatrics
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

Written Kannada quiz contest on Nov. 16

Mysuru, Nov. 6- As part of Kannada Rajyotsava, the city's Sakhi Foundation, in association with Surya Charitable Trust, has organised *'Nam Kannada Habba'*, a written Kannada quiz competition at Jayalakshmidevi PU College in Ramakrishnanagar here at 4 pm on Nov.16.

The contest will be held under 5 sections: 1) Literature and Culture, 2) Arts, Dance and Music, 3) Folklore, Riddle and Proverbial phrase, 4) Sports and Entertainment and 5) Current affairs.

The quiz contest will have a question paper carrying 100 marks. Those who score more than 80 marks in the written test will qualify for the oral round and all the participants will be given a certificate. Marking the occasion, a 15-day practical coaching on Nudi computer programme typing in Kannada script has been organised.

Students, home-makers, employees aged over 25 years are eligible to take part. The last date for registration is Nov. 12. For details, contact Mob: 99647-90442 or 99013-11815.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM	KABINI DAM	Harangi DAM
Maximum **124.80 feet**	Maximum **2,284 feet**	Maximum **2,859 feet**
Today's level **124.80 feet**	Today's level **2,282.58 feet**	Today's level **2,853.97 feet**
Last year's level **99.40 feet**	Last year's level **2,273.36 feet**	Last year's level **2,848.22 feet**
Yesterday's level **124.80 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,282.71 feet**	Yesterday's level **2,854.31 feet**
Today's Inflow **7,856 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **138 cusecs**	Today's Inflow **141 cusecs**
Today's Outflow **7,646 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,000 cusecs**	Today's Outflow **1,400 cusecs**

REALLY...?

- ***The Nile Crocodiles jaws can apply 5,000 pounds of pressure per square inch — the strongest bite of any animal in the world.***
- ***It's bite can exert a force eight times more powerful than that of a great white shark and 15 times more than a Rottweiler's.***
- ***Large crocodiles swallow stones, known as gastroliths. These act as ballast, helping them to balance their body underwater.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Little girl to mother: Laxmi is burning all the match sticks.

Laxmi: No mother, I am testing it to check whether it burns or not!!

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= **Rs. 84.23**
1 UK Pound	= **Rs. 108.43**
1 UAE Dirham	= **Rs. 22.93**
1 Euro	= **Rs. 90.52**

VOICE OF THE READER

Encroachment of parking spaces

Sir,

I live on 5th Main Road, V.V. Mohalla. Of late, I have been observing that several owners of independent houses, as also apartments, have been encroaching the areas outside their compounds and either landscaping the area or paving the area in such a manner that it becomes impossible to utilise those spaces to park vehicles.

As it is, over the past few years, the number of vehicles plying on the roads in Mysuru have grown substantially. Parking is becoming a big problem all over the city. With the number of eateries/ wellness centres in and around this area, it has become extremely difficult for visitors to find a parking place on our road.

If even the available spaces are encroached upon, where does one park?

Is the Mysuru City Corporation not observing this trend, or are they turning a blind eye to these encroachments?

Or has any permission been given by the Corporation authorities for using these spaces?

I would request the authorities concerned to visit this road and see for themselves how congested the area is becoming, and to take steps to clear the roads of all these encroachments.

—Thimmiah
V.V. Mohalla
31.10.2024

State-level Hackathon on Nov. 9

Mysuru, Nov. 6- The Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering at Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering (VVCE), Mysuru, is set to host a State-level hackathon themed "Sustainable Solutions for Smart Campus" on Nov. 9.

The event will take place at the H. Kempegowda Indoor Sports Complex in the college campus and is expected to bring together 50 teams from Engineering Colleges across the State.

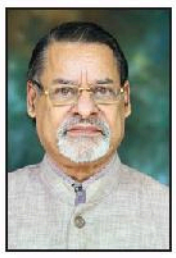
The hackathon aims to encourage students to design and develop innovative solutions that promote sustainability in smart campus environments. Participants will work intensively on projects that focus on sustainable development, energy efficiency and environmental conservation, with the opportunity to win exciting cash prizes.

The event will kick-off at 9.30 am, with an inaugural ceremony featuring Deepak, Senior Engineer at Mysuru City Corporation (MCC).

Gundappa Gowda, President of Vidyavardhaka Sangha (VVS), will preside over the event, with other key dignitaries including P. Vishwanath (VVS Secretary), Shreeshaila Ramannavar (Treasurer) and Dr. B. Sadashiva Gowda (VVCE Principal) in attendance. The Electrical and Electronics Department will be represented by Dr. Gopal Reddy, HoD, along with faculty members Professors G.K. Savyasachi, R. Avinash, R.P. Karthik and M. K. Bhushit, who are serving as coordinators of the event.

This hackathon provides a unique platform for students to collaborate, innovate and showcase their ideas for a more sustainable future, aligned with the growing demand for smart and green technologies in urban spaces. For details, contact Mob: 83109-06646.

City entrepreneur invited to deliver talk at Taiwan Expo


Rakesh Rastogi

Mysuru, Nov. 6- City entrepreneur Rakesh Rastogi has been invited by Taiwan Alliance for Sustainable Supply (TASS) to participate in TASS-2024 Sustainable Taiwan Expo (The Fifth Asia's Sustainable Supply and Circular Economy Exhibition and Conference) to be held from Nov.6 to 8 at Kaohsiung Exhibition Centre (KEC) in Kaohsiung City, Taiwan.

He will be addressing the IFPSM Asia Pacific Sustainable Supply Forum on Nov.7 on the topic ***"The Perspectives of Sustainable Supply Chain in Asia Pacific"*** in the morning session.

'Krishi Mela' at Bengaluru's GKVK from Nov. 14

Mysuru, Nov. 6- The University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bengaluru, in association with various Government Departments, will hold a four-day 'Krishi Mela' at Gandhi Krishi Vijnana Kendra, Hebbal, Bengaluru from Nov. 14 to 17.

Arrangements have been made for farmers of Mysuru district to avail of the benefits and facilities at the Mela on Nov. 15, according to a press release from the Education Extension Centre of Organic Farming Research Station at Naganahalli.

Art and Mind Fest 2024 at KSOU on Nov. 7, 8

Mysuru, Nov. 6- The Department of Study and Research in Journalism and Mass Communication, Karnataka State Open University (KSOU), has organised a two-day Art and Mind Fest 2024 at KSOU premises in city on Nov. 7 and 8.

MDJA President K. Deepak, Bengaluru's International Academy of Management and Entrepreneurship (IAME) Director (Academics) and Principal Dr. K. Aparna Rao and Karnataka Sugama Sangeetha Parishat District President Dr. Nagaraj V. Bairy will inaugurate the Fest at Cauvery auditorium of KSOU at 10 am tomorrow. KSOU Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sharanappa V. Halse will preside. KSOU Registrar Prof. K.B. Praveena and Academic Dean Dr. N. Lakshmi will be present.

Competitions for students

During the two-day Festival, Drawing, Essay, Debate, Pick & Speak, Mime Act, Quiz and Spelling Bee Competitions will be held for students from Class 8 to 10 and Class 11 and 12 at Ganga and Cauvery auditoriums in KSOU premises.

The valedictory will be held at Cauvery auditorium on Nov. 8 at 3.30 pm. Journalist Amshi Prasannakumar, KSOU Study Centre Dean Dr. M. Ramanatham Naidu, Registrar (Evaluation) Dr. H. Vishwanath and IAME Director (Operations and Strategies) Govindaraj Setty will be present. National Anti Duplication Bureau (NADB) Vice-President Dr. C.V. Srinath Setty will preside.

Forum for Human Rights & Anti-Corruption Karnataka State Vice-President R.P. Praveen Kumar, Anaesthesiologist Dr. Krithika Devi of Agasthya Multi-Speciality Hospital and Dr. Sugandhi Udupa of Thomas Multispeciality Dental Clinic will be present. [Contact Mob: 96068-29200].

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NEWS BRIEFS

Child Labour: Call Helpline 1098

The Mysuru Division Assistant Labour Commissioner has, in a press release, urged the public to call Helpline Number 1098 if they find child and adolescent labourers working in stalls and shops and children found begging and selling pens, pencils and other items in Dasara Exhibition premises and hotels across the city.

Carmel Convent Alumni Meet

The Alumni Meet of Carmel Convent Educational Institutions, Mandya, has been organised at the Institution premises on Nov. 9 at 10.30 am under the aegis of the School Administration and its Alumni. Stating that the institution is run since 62 years and its alumni are serving various fields across the globe, Institution Manager and Sister Superior, Gladies Castelino has invited all the alumni to attend the event and meet their teachers and friends.

Deadline extended

The Backward Classes Welfare Department has extended the deadline for applying to avail Post-Matric Student Scholarship, fee exemption, Vidyasiri Scheme benefits etc., to Nov. 10. Eligible students can apply through website: ***https://ssp.postmatric.karnataka.gov.in***. [Mob: 80507-70005]

Dermatology camp

A 5-day free Dermatology Camp has begun at Suyog Hospital in Ramakrishnanagar this morning. The camp will be open till Nov. 10. [Ph: 0821-2533600 or 99863-99862]

Elected unopposed

Senior Brahmin community leader and social worker of Mysuru, **Dr. K. Raghuram Vajpayee** was unanimously elected as the President of the newly formed Brahmana Vaidika Pratishtana, Chamarajapuram, at a meeting held recently under the leadership of Prematanaya Guruji.

Ph.D awardee

M.P. Chandresh has been awarded Ph.D in Faculty of Technology (Polymer Science) by Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi, for his thesis 'Preparation and Characterisation of Liquid-Rubber-Based Blends and its Compounds' submitted under the guidance of Dr. S. Roopa.

MUDA 50:50 ratio land allocation

16 sites illegally procured in Vijayanagar through fake will

Ex-MUDA Commr., officials accused of aiding private individual

Mysuru, Nov. 6 (GA&BCT)- A new scandal has emerged, involving the creation of fake documents to acquire sites in Vijayanagar illegally, allegedly orchestrated by private individuals in collusion with officials from the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA).

Speaking at a press conference at Pathrakartara Bhavan in city yesterday, Samaja Rakshana Sene State President K.H. Hanumantharaju accused one Deepu Rajendra and certain MUDA officials of causing the Government a loss of crores by fabricating documents to secure approval for 16 sites in Vijayanagar under the 50:50 ratio in lieu of land spanning four acres under Survey No. 4 (16/1) in Kurubarahalli, Mysuru.

Hanumantharaju noted that in 1965, the then City Improvement Trust Board (CITB) had awarded Rs. 4,000 as compensation to G.V. Parashivamurthy of Kollegal, the original heir of this four-acre tract. Yet, 58 years later, MUDA officials allegedly approved 16 sites for Deepu Rajendra in a single day, facilitated through fake documents under a 50:50 ratio.

Samaja Rakshana Sene State President K.H. Hanumantharaju (centre) addressing a press meet at Pathrakartara Bhavan in city yesterday.

"Despite prior acquisition and compensation payments, former MUDA Commissioner G.T. Dinesh Kumar, Surveyor P. Raghu, Land Acquisition Section Manager B.M. Shruthi and First Division Assistant Darshan illegally sanctioned 16 sites to Deepu Rajendra in 2023-24 using a forged will and death certificate. Fraudulent records were fabricated, bypassing the mandatory 'check-bandi' and sketch verification process, to enable the unlawful allocation of these plots," Hanumantharaju said.

He stated that although Deepu Rajendra has no connection to G.V. Parashivamurthy, the original heir to the four-acre land under Survey No. 4 (16/1) in Kurubarahalli, plots were granted to him based on a forged will.

RTI query dismissed

"When we sought information under the Right to Information (RTI) Act, MUDA officials replied, 'As per your request, records regarding Survey Number 4 (16/1) are not available in our office. Furthermore, the requested will or death certificate is a private document and under Section 8(1)(J) of the RTI Act, we are not permitted to provide it. Therefore, your application has been dismissed'," he disclosed.

A notice was sent through a lawyer to those accused in the scam, but MUDA officials have not responded. "On the lawyer's advice, a complaint was lodged at the Lakshmipuram Police Station. However, the Police informed us they would forward the complaint to the Lokayukta and suggested filing it directly there. In light of this, we have decided to submit a formal complaint to the Lokayukta and to the Justice P.N. Desai Commission, which is probing MUDA's corruption and land allocation scandal," he stated.

Jayanna, Rangaswamy, Swami Nayak and Sher Khader were present at the press meet.

Missing CCTV cameras from MUDA Commissioner's residence

Police complaint lodged after two-month delay

Mysuru, Nov. 6 (BCT)- The case of missing CCTV cameras and a Digital Video Recorder (DVR) from the MUDA Commissioner's official residence has been reported to the Kuvempunagar Police Station.

A complaint has been filed alleging the disappearance of two CCTV cameras and one DVR from the Commissioner's residence near Apollo BGS Hospitals on Adichunchanagiri Road in Kuvempunagar, commonly known as the 'home office.' The complaint was lodged by MUDA building section officials following directions from the current Commissioner, A.N. Raghunandan. However, Raghunandan is not residing at the official residence.

For security purposes, eight CCTV cameras were installed around the front, exterior and rear of the MUDA Commissioner's home office, along with a DVR system capable of storing up to three months of footage.

The missing hard drive, which reportedly contained video footage of MUDA documents and individuals entering and exiting the Commissioner's residence, has raised suspicions of evidence tampering, potentially to obstruct investigations into MUDA scam.

It is important to note that on Sept. 10, 2024, *Star of Mysore* **had reported the disappearance under the headline *'CCTV cameras and DVR vanish from MUDA Commissioner's official residence.'* Despite the issue being detected earlier, the complaint was filed after nearly two months.** This incident marks a troubling escalation in the scandal, with officials not only disregarding regulations but also seemingly attempting to erase key evidence of their misconduct.

Sources indicate that during the tenures of Dr. D.B. Natesh and G.T. Dinesh Kumar as MUDA Commissioners, they, along with their close associates and a select group of officers, regularly approved site allocations under the 50:50 scheme.

These approvals were often formalised through official notifications and memorandums issued from their home offices, frequently after regular office hours.

Snehamayi Krishna demands reclamation of all 50:50 sites

'Let MUDA meeting on Nov. 7 cancel registrations'

Mysuru, Nov. 6 (BLU&BCT)- RTI activist Snehamayi Krishna has urged the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) Commissioner A.N. Raghunandan to take immediate steps, including reclaiming all sites allocated under MUDA's controversial 50:50 ratio scheme.

In a letter to the Commissioner, he outlined details of alleged corruption within MUDA, pointing to inaction on previously submitted applications seeking accountability and repossession of these sites. He criticised the Commissioner for not addressing his repeated requests, questioning if it was his duty to protect influential figures like CM Siddaramaiah and officials allegedly involved in the MUDA land scam.

Krishna demanded a prompt response with verified documents within 7 days of his letter's receipt.

"If you fail to respond," he warned, "I will be compelled to approach the Government and the Judiciary, asserting that you have neglected your responsibility to safeguard public assets and instead shielded those involved in criminal misconduct."

In a further move, Snehamayi Krishna has written to the Secretary of the Urban Development Department, urging him to direct the MUDA Commissioner to revoke site allocations made under the 50:50 scheme during the upcoming MUDA meeting on Nov. 7. "The registrations for all these sites should be cancelled," he insisted.

'Misuse' of Central Agencies

Protest in Delhi tomorrow

Mysuru, Nov. 6 (GA&BCT)- Accusing the Central Government of misusing investigative agencies to undermine the federal structure and target CM Siddaramaiah, a protest meeting has been scheduled for Nov. 7 at the Karnataka Sangha in Delhi. The protest is being organised by Rajya Hindulida Vargagala Jagruta Vedike and AHINDA organisations.

At a press conference held at Pathrakartara Bhavan yesterday, Vedike President K.S. Shivaramu announced that the protest will feature former Rajya Sabha Member L. Hanumanthaiah, Kannada activist Janagere Venkataramaiah, former Kannada Development Authority Chairman Prof. S.G. Siddaramaiah, former Book Authority Chairman Banjagere Jayaprakash, Congress District President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar and others.

Approximately 200 participants from Mysuru, Bengaluru, Chikkamagaluru and other areas are expected to attend. Following the protest, a memorandum will be submitted to the President, urging intervention.

Big Bribe

barb against Excise Dept.

Rs. 18 crore collected to grease palms of officials

- Wine merchants to observe bandh on Nov. 20
- RTI activist writes to Governor, Chief Minister
- Blames Excise Minister for massive corruption

Bengaluru, Nov. 6 (Agencies)- Beleaguered Congress Government in the State that is in news for wrong reasons due to multi-crore scam at Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Limited, site scam at Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) and Karnataka State Waqf Board claiming ownership of farm lands and other long held assets of mutts and temples, has a recent addition in the alleged massive corruption at Excise Department.

The Federation of Wine Merchants Association, Karnataka has written a letter to Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah alleging that, Excise officials have been harassing wine merchants by collecting 'Monthly Money.' Condemning this, the Association has decided to observe Statewide bandh by shutting down wine stores on Nov. 20.

To corroborate this, S.N. Ajith, a Right to Information (RTI) activist has shot off an e-mail to the Office of Chief Minister, Governor, Leader of Opposition in Legislative Assembly R. Ashoka and others, accusing Excise Minister R.B. Thimmapur for the rot.

The Office of the Excise Minister is being misused to collect bribe from the staff and officers of Excise Department posted in Bengaluru for transferring them. They are collecting Rs. 40 lakh from Excise Inspectors posted in Bengaluru city limits and Rs. 25 lakh from the Excise Superintendents posted outside Bengaluru. The officers have collected Rs. 18 crore, of which Rs. 13 crore has reached the hands of Excise Minister Thimmapur, alleged Ajith in his e-mail.

'Excise Minister Thimmapur cause for corruption'

Thimmapur Excise Minister

Guruswamy President, Wine Merchants Assn.

Mysuru, Nov. 6 (BS)- S. Guruswamy, President of Federation of Wine Merchants Association, Karnataka, has alleged large scale irregularities of several hundreds crores of rupees in Excise Department, pinning the blame on Excise Minister R.B. Thimmapur as the progenitor of corruption.

Speaking to a vernacular news channel, Guruswamy said, the irregularities is not merely valued between Rs. 18 crore and Rs. 20 crore, but even more, with the Excise officials themselves taking the name of the Excise Minister for having paid the bribe for the posting.

The rates (of bribe) has been fixed to grease the palm of the Minister, Commissioner, Superintendent, Squad and staff. The impact is felt by the license holder, who is facing the trouble. But hasn't it not come to the notice of CM Siddaramaiah? If true, we will be called as insane, said Guruswamy.

The Excise Minister has stalled the transfer of some officials, with Personal Assistant (PA), Personal Secretary (PS) of the Minister also involved in the scam. Fed up by the mammoth corruption, Ajith (RTI activist) eventually complained to the Governor.

If any license holder raises the voice, he will have to face trouble, with the officials posing queries about the license and also the liquor stock.

The Wine Merchants Association will also be complaining to the Governor and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in the coming days, said Guruswamy.

BJP workers taken into preventive custody for protesting against CM

Mysuru, Nov. 6 (GA&DM)- Even as Chief Minister Siddaramaiah arrived in the city this morning to appear before the Lokayukta Police in connection with the alleged illegal allotment of 14 alternative sites to his wife Parvathi, the City and District BJP units staged a massive demonstration in city this morning to seek the CM's resignation.

However, the protest was short-lived as the Police took the protesting BJP workers into preventive custody. As the BJP workers strongly resisted the police action, the partymen were bundled into KSRP vans and other vehicles and taken to CAR grounds, from where they will be let off later in the day.

Ahead of CM's arrival in the city, the BJP workers had gathered on Jayalakshmivilas road that connects Ramaswamy Circle, to stage the demonstration seeking the resignation of the CM. But the Police who were present at the spot, took them into preventive custody soon as they raised slogans against the CM in protest, by bundling the BJP workers into KSRP vans.

Even as they were forced into the vans, the BJP workers shouted slogans against Siddaramaiah and the Congress Government, seeking the resignation of the CM even before his questioning by the Lokayukta Police, as his resignation was vital for a fair probe into the MUDA scam.

Lashing out at the Police action, the BJP workers accused the Police of behaving like Congress agents.

MLA T.S. Srivatsa, City BJP President L. Nagendra, Rural-President L.R. Mahadevaswamy, former Mayor Shivakumar, party leaders B.M. Raghu, Giridhar and others were present.

DSS stages counter protest

Even as the BJP staged a protest seeking the resignation of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah over the mega MUDA scam, the Karnataka State Dalit Sangharsha Samiti (DSS) took out a semi-nude rally in the city this morning in support of Siddaramaiah, as a counter to the BJP's protest in the city.

Strongly backing CM Siddaramaiah and condemning the 'misuse' of central agencies such as CBI, ED and I-T by the Union Government in weakening the Siddaramaiah led Congress Government, the DSS took out the rally, as part of its state-wide agitation.

The rally, which commenced from near Chamundi Vihar stadium in Nazarbad, culminated in front of the DC office on Bannur road in Siddarthanagar. They submitted a memorandum against Opposition BJP-JD(S) combine's efforts to destabilise the Siddaramaiah led Congress Government.

DSS leaders Mallesh Chinchanahalli, Itna Rajanna, Krishna Kolagatta, Hanumantharaju, Suresh, Ranganath, Srinivas, Mahadev and Raju were present.

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Abracadabra...

By K.B. Ganapathy

Jai ho Trump

Return of Donald Trump as US President

A triumphant victory for Donald Trump in the Presidential election of America 2024. It was the greatest political electoral combat in recent American history. Kamala has withered. Having visited some parts of America during and before Barack Obama became the President, I have always been for Donald Trump for the good of America, as I perceived.

It may not be important for me personally but I am sure Trump is important for my country. That's why Trump's victory is important for me. If **America First** is Trump's clarion call, my feeble call is **'India First'.** Above all, Trump's victory will strengthen our Prime Minister Narendra Modi's hands further among the comity of nations all over the world.

No adversary would dare, as much as crack a whip of war, border violation, terrorism or illegal immigration with ease as now. I get a gut feeling that the present sudden spurt in Pakistan-promoted terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir too will either end or be only sporadic.

In 2019, when Narendra Modi won for the second time Donald Trump was the President of America. I remember that in September 2019, watching TV in the night, being astounded at the way Prime Minister Narendra Modi was accorded an unprecedented rousing welcome at the NRG Stadium in the "Howdy Modi" event in Houston, Texas. No ordinary honour this to the iconic personality of Narendra Modi. It was, probably for the first time in America, the country's President was seen participating in a non-official event that any head of a country in the world would envy.

At that time, watching the event on TV, I was mesmerised hearing Modi deliver the welcome speech in immaculate english and Trump responding with all-embracing love for Modi and his country. Trump said he highly valued the three beautiful words in both the American and the Indian Constitution, **"We The People."**

Trump and Modi in 2019 at the Houston event.

What sounded like music to Modi's ears and of every nationalist Indian's ears was when Trump said, **'The radical Islamic terrorism'** should be put an end globally, whatever it takes. There was a standing ovation and long drawn-out applause from the audience.

Now that Trump has won, it is time for Modi to return the honour he received in 2019 to Trump in 2024 by inviting him to India. Hope, Modi will not disappoint American Indians on an occasion like this.

On 19th July 2024 I had written an *Abracadabra* titled ***"Waiting for Donald Trump"*** in two parts. Here, I had spoken of two types of politicians — patriotic politicians and power-seeking politicians. Modi and Trump belong to the category of patriotic politicians.

I had also observed in conclusion about the glory of American Democracy: "In America **all whites** are not white supremacists nor **all non-whites** are left liberals."

This could be the reason for Donald Trump's triumph in this 2024 Presidential election. Congratulations Mr. Trump.

As a parting shot, delivering his 2020 State of the Union address, Donald Trump said that Modi had launched the **"Great Indian Comeback"** and under Modi, India's fortunes are on the rise and India's future is "blazing bright." He had further said, "socialism destroys nation, but always remember, freedom unifies souls." Ratan Tata too had the same opinion about Nehru's socialism so also C. Rajagopalachari about which I had written in this column on Nov. 4, 2024.

The full text of Trump's speech has many lessons for present day India to learn if it has to reclaim its self-respect and lost dignity.

When Modi became the Prime Minister in 2014 many, born in pre-independence years and had seen the Congress rule for over 60 years, thought that a New Indian Age had begun, an opportunity to correct the historical wrongs had arrived. Sadly, not enough was done. What was done so far seems too little.

Looking at Modi's 11 years in Office, one gets the feeling that he might well keep under the glass top of his official desk the four lines of Robert Frost's poem *"Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening"* as done by Nehru:

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

Is it like Waiting for Godot?

e-mail:
voice@starofmysore.com

Hathkargha Mela-2024

Handloom Expo-cum-Sale at JSS Mysore Urban Haat

Mysuru, Nov. 6- A State-level Handloom Expo-cum-Sale titled 'Hathkargha Mela — My Handloom, My Pride - Virasat' will be held at JSS Mysore Urban Haat in Hebbal from Nov. 8 to 21 from 10 am to 9.30 pm.

District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa will inaugurate the expo on Nov. 8 at 4 pm.

The Handloom Expo, sponsored by Development Commissioner (Handloom), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, New Delhi, is organised by Commissioner for Textile Development & Director, Department of Handloom & Textile, Government of Karnataka, Karnataka State Co-operative Handloom Weavers Federation Ltd. (Cauvery Handlooms), Bengaluru, Deputy Director, Department of Handloom & Textile, Mysuru, JSS Mahavidyapeetha and JSS Mysore Urban Haat.

This event aims to provide greater market access for handloom products created by weavers and cooperatives, ensuring that these unique crafts do not fade away. It will empower families reliant on weaving as a livelihood by offering them a platform to sell their products under one roof.

The exhibition will feature over 75 handloom weavers and artisans showcasing a rich variety of handloom products from across Karnataka, including districts such as Chitradurga, Haveri, Chamarajanagar, Mandya, Ramanagara and more.

Visitors can also expect to see exquisite silk and cotton sarees, bed sheets and other textiles crafted from blended yarns, along with handloom items from over 15 States across India.

Highlights: Visitors can avail a 20% discount on handloom products directly from weavers and cooperatives; Discover a stunning collection of sarees, including Karnataka's renowned silk and cotton sarees, traditional Kanjivaram sarees from Tamil Nadu; Handwoven sarees from Kerala, Bihar, West Bengal; intricate Banarasi silk sarees and Chikan embroidered pieces.

Hasanamba Temple records

Rs. 12.63 crore Hundi collection

Hassan, Nov. 6- The famed Hasanamba Temple at Hassan, which opens only for 10 days a year during the Hindu festival Deepavali, has recorded a whopping Rs. 12.63 crore Hundi collection this year, when the temple was opened for devotees from Oct. 24 and closed on Nov. 2.

The counting of Hundi collection was taken up on Monday, during which Rs. 12,63,83,808 cash was found collected. Also, the devotees had offered 51 gm gold jewellery, 913 gm silver jewellery and 500 gm copper articles.

The breakup of the temple's collection is as follows: Rs. 9,67,37,567 collected from sale of special tickets priced at Rs. 1,000 and Rs.300; Rs. 2,55,97,567 counted in Hundi; Rs. 5,50,000 from advertisements; Rs. 2,00,305 from sale of sarees; Rs. 40,908 in the form of donations; Rs. 21,540 from Tulabhara and Rs. 3,98,859 from e-Hundi collection. More than 500 personnel from Muzrai, other Departments and Bank staff took part in the counting which lasted for over six hours.

Donald Trump Wins

(Continued from page 1)

Trump expressed gratitude for Melania Trump's contributions, praising her bestselling memoir, where she shared her pro-choice stance on abortion and addressed rumours about their son while keeping many personal details private.

Vance also thanked Trump for allowing him to join the campaign. Speaking to supporters in West Palm Beach, Vance said, "I think we just witnessed the greatest political comeback in the history of the United States of America," while vowing to lead the country into "the greatest economic comeback in American history."

Lokayukta Police question CM

(Continued from page 1)

Once at the Lokayukta Office, Siddaramaiah was escorted by a lone Police vehicle and was received by Mysuru Superintendent of Police N. Vishnuvardhana. Lokayukta SP T.J. Udesh, the Investigating Officer, welcomed Siddaramaiah at the doors of the Lokayukta Office and personally led him to the room where he was questioned.

Before heading to the Lokayukta Office, Siddaramaiah arrived at the Government Guest House at Nazarbad, where he was given a ceremonial guard of honour by the Police. He was accompanied by Mysuru District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, Animal Husbandry Minister K. Venkatesh, MLAs A.S. Ponnanna (also the CM's legal advisor) and Ashok Pattan (of Ramdurg in Belagavi).

The Police had cordoned off road near Mysuru Lokayukta SP Office hours ahead of CM Siddaramaiah's questioning this morning.

Accompanied by legal advisor

After a brief stop at the Government Guest House, the CM proceeded to the Lokayukta SP Office, accompanied by his legal advisor, Ponnanna. It remains unclear whether Ponnanna joined Siddaramaiah during the questioning session, but he was present with the CM from Bengaluru. The legal advisor continued to accompany Siddaramaiah even as he left the Lokayukta Office.

During his visit, Siddaramaiah was granted direct access to the Lokayukta Office, bypassing usual security protocols. However, his supporters were not allowed near the premises, as police restricted access to the area.

Notably, Siddaramaiah took different routes for his arrival and departure at the Lokayukta Office. He arrived for questioning via Sheshadri Road, but upon exiting, he took a different route, proceeding to the Government Guest House via Dewan's Road and Ramavilas Road. Siddaramaiah avoided any interaction with the media during his visit.

Media men argue with Police

Media personnel had positioned themselves near Ambedkar Bhavan, in front of the Commercial Tax Office, to cover Siddaramaiah's appearance, as this location provided a clear view of the Lokayukta Office entrance.

However, upon realising that the cameramen were focusing their lenses on the entrance, the Police parked a large van in a strategic position, obstructing the view. This move forced the media to leave the spot.

The situation led to heated arguments between the media and the Police, with journalists accusing the officers of high-handedness. After nearly 30 minutes, the Police van was eventually moved, allowing the media to resume coverage.

High-profile case

The investigation into the alleged MUDA site allotment scam stems from a case registered by the Mysuru unit of the Karnataka Lokayukta Police on Sept. 27, following a private complaint filed by Snehamayi Krishna at the Special Court for Elected Representatives and the Governor. The Karnataka High Court has cleared the investigation.

Siddaramaiah, who is Accused 1 in the case, faces charges alongside his wife, B.M. Parvathi, who is Accused 2. Also implicated are Parvathi's brother, B.M. Mallikarjunaswamy and landowner J. Devaraju. The four individuals have been charged with corruption, cheating and forgery about the allocation of 14 high-value MUDA housing sites, granted as compensation for 3.16 acres of low-value land in Kesare, which was gifted to Parvathi by her brother in 2010.

Siddaramaiah has repeatedly denied any involvement in the land allotment process. The controversy gained momentum after the Enforcement Directorate initiated a money laundering investigation into the MUDA scam.

Meanwhile, Siddaramaiah's wife has returned the sites to MUDA in September 2024.

CM's quizzing marks crucial stage in MUDA site scam probe

Mysuru, Nov. 6 (BLU&BCT)- The questioning of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah by the Mysuru Lokayukta Police in connection with the allotment of 14 sites by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA) to his wife, B.M. Parvathi, marks a pivotal moment in the ongoing investigation into the MUDA land allocation scam.

This comes a day after the High Court issued a significant order on a petition filed by social activist Snehamayi Krishna, who has been seeking a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into the case.

The Court yesterday directed Mysuru Lokayukta to submit all investigation reports regarding the case, specifically requesting an update on progress of investigation conducted till Nov. 24. The Court will hear the case on Nov. 26.

Misuse of power

Today's inquiry, which centres on Siddaramaiah's alleged misuse of power in the land allocation process, is crucial to the direction of the case. Snehamayi Krishna has expressed doubts about the integrity of the Lokayukta's investigation, citing a lack of trust in the system.

Series of questions

Sources told *Star of Mysore* that today, Lokayukta Police posed several questions to Siddaramaiah, touching on various aspects of case. Among questions were inquiries about his knowledge of the land transfer, the process through which his wife received the sites, and his involvement in the allotment process.

Specifically, the CM was asked about the legality of the land transfer and whether he had reviewed or signed any documents related to the gift of land to his wife. The Lokayukta also raised concerns about whether Siddaramaiah exerted any influence over the land allotment process.

In addition to questions regarding the site allocation, Siddaramaiah was also quizzed about his son Dr. Yathindra Siddaramaiah, a former MLA and current MLC, and his knowledge of the situation as a MUDA Board member.

The questioning also focused on the timing and impact of the return of the sites after the corruption case was filed. He was asked whether he had exerted pressure on MUDA officials, given that he held influential positions — as Chief Minister, Deputy Chief Minister, and Leader of the Opposition — during the land gifting and transfer, denotification, site allocation, and subsequent return of the sites.

Calm and composed

Sources said that Siddaramaiah remained calm and composed throughout his questioning. The CM answered all questions without hesitation, providing written responses to every query. He was asked to return for further questioning if necessary and his signature was obtained on an agreement acknowledging this. However, no new documents were requested during session, and he continued to cooperate with the ongoing investigation.

"I am a common man, and I request that this inquiry be fair," he remarked during the questioning. After a 30-minute session, when asked if he needed a break, he declined, urging the officers to continue. He further assured them that he would return if required for any further questioning.

Lokayukta Police have to submit a report to the Special Court for elected representatives by Dec. 24 when the Court will resume hearing.

Inquiry not a black mark in my career: Siddaramaiah

Mysuru, Nov. 6 (BLU&BCT)- After facing a two-hour-long questioning by the Mysuru Lokayukta Police, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah arrived at the Government Guest House, where he was met with a barrage of questions from the media.

While Siddaramaiah initially exited the Lokayukta office with a smile, he appeared visibly irritated at the Government Guest House when reporters asked if the Lokayukta inquiry was a blemish or a black mark on his 40-year-long political career.

His body language reflected his frustration. However, the CM quickly regained his composure and clarified that he had answered all questions posed by the Lokayukta Police and that every response was duly recorded.

He dismissed the accusations as baseless, stating, "There is no reason for me to feel embarrassed; the inquiry was conducted properly, and everything was done according to the law."

He further emphasised that the decision to return the sites was not an admission of wrongdoing, explaining that his wife decided to return them. "This is not an admission of any mistake," he said.

He also denied any involvement with the documents related to the case, insisting that no such documents were in his possession. **"This case is not my concern; until a decision is made in court, it remains an allegation," he added.**

Obituary

Uzra Farooq

Mysuru, Nov. 6- Uzra Farooq (59), wife of wrestler Iqbal Khan

and a resident of Gayathripuram, behind Udayakrishna Hotel, Azeez Sait Double Road, passed away following a heart attack this morning in city.

She leaves behind her husband, eight daughters, six sons including Hazarath Moulana Mufti Rouman Razvi of Khateeb Masjid Moula Hussain at Sathyanagar and Hafiz Abdul Mustafa Razvi, Khateeb-o-Imam of Masjid-Ya-Mustafa at Udayagiri and a host of relatives and friends.

Namaz-e-Janaza was performed today after Mahqreeb Salath at Masjid Hazarath Meer Hayath Saheb in Mandi Mohalla, followed by the burial at the Muslim Burial Grounds near Tipu Circle, according to family sources.

1st Year Remembrance

Smt. Puttamma
W/o. Late S.V. Swamy
Vishweshwaranagara, Mysuru
—Family Members

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby issued to the general public that **Smt. Kamalamma** W/o. Late. Doddavenkategowda, **Sri. Hemanth Kumar D.** S/o. Late. Doddavenkategowda, Sri. Jayaprakash D. S/o. Late. Doddavenkategowda, residing at; No. 292, Thyaga Marga, Siddartha Nagar, Mysuru-570011 and Smt. Parimala D. D/o. Late. Doddavenkategowda, residing at: Post Office Road, Jain Basadi, Srirangapattana, Mandya Dist-571438, have agreed to sell the SCHEDULE PROPERTY to my client.

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Place: MYSURU, Date. 06/11/2024

Race to White House: Blue or Red?

By Prof. G.L. Shekar from New York

New York, Nov. 5- The magic number is 270. Who is poised to get it? Though the political pundits were vociferous in saying "it will be a tight fight" between Donald Trump and Kamala Harris, the projected winner, however, at this hour of 11.30 pm (EST-Eastern Standard Time) is Trump.

Trump has won 230 electoral votes with 51.7 percent votes, while Harris has won 205 with 47. 6 percent. Like in India, the 'experts' are telling it is too *early* to call who crosses the magic number. Some jubilant Republicans are, however, seen waving the red flag.

At this point in time, Harris has won in some of the East Coast States like Washington DC, Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, Connecticut, New York, Vermont, Rhode Island, Virginia and Massachusetts. Similarly, she has won in West Coast States like California, Oregon, Washington, Colorado and New Mexico. She is leading Nevada, Minnesota and Illinois. In rest of the States, Trump has either won or leading. Still the crux States — Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Michigan — do matter and too close to call.

Americans headed to the polls since this morning to vote for their next President. Months of intense campaigning, massive advertisements, infinite number of leaflets and flyers and top it all, extensive use of social media, led to the **Election Day in the United States,** being watched world-over with curiosity and anxiety.

Today, Tuesday (Nov.5) was the final day to cast a ballot when polling stations closed in each of the 50 States, which span six time zones.

It is Vice-President Kamala (Devi) Harris versus former President Donald Trump. This election presented a polarised race between them. This election occurred in a politically charged environment, marked by economic concerns, international conflicts and significant legal battles involving Trump. **Each need the magic number of 270+ electoral votes to win. The winner will serve a term of four years in the White House, starting in January 2025.**

Donald Trump won the Republican Party's support with a massive lead over his rivals and clinched 2024 Republican Presidential Nomination in March. Trump chose Ohio Senator JD Vance to be his Vice-Presidential running mate. Kamala Harris joined the race after President Joe Biden dropped out and no other Democrats stood against her. Her running mate for Vice-President is Minnesota Governor Tim Walz.

Trump actively campaigned across traditional battlegrounds like Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, emphasising economic growth and immigration reform, amidst his own multiple legal issues. Kamala Harris attempted hard to maintain Democrats' support in States like Michigan and Wisconsin, where recent polls show her leading slightly. She has focused on rallying progressive and younger voters, especially around issues like reproductive rights and climate change. Harris has also faced protests related to US involvement in international conflicts, such as the Israel-Gaza war, which has become a sensitive issue in her campaign events.

Donald John Trump, 78, served as the 45th President of the US from 2017 to 2021. Trump won the 2016 Presidential election as the Republican Party nominee against Democratic Party candidate Hillary Clinton. Trump is the only US President to have been impeached twice — in 2019 for abuse of power and obstruction of Congress after he pressured Ukraine to investigate Joe Biden, and in 2021 for incitement of insurrection.

Kamala Harris and Donald Trump during a heated debate.

First time voters.

Trump lost the 2020 Presidential election to Biden. Since leaving office, Trump has continued to dominate the Republican Party and is their nominee again in the 2024 Presidential election.

Kamala Devi Harris, 60, has been the 49th and current Vice- President of the US since 2021, serving under President Joe Biden. Harris is the Democratic Presidential nominee in 2024. She is the first female Vice-President of the US, making her the highest-ranking female official in US history. She is also the first African American and first Asian American Vice-President.

Her mother, Shyamala Gopalan, was a Biologist who arrived in the US from India in 1958 to enroll in Graduate School in Endocrinology at the University of California, Berkeley. According to Harris' maternal uncle Gopalan Balachandran, she remains connected to her roots in India, both through her upbringing and visits to Chennai. Harris also visited Chennai along with her sister Maya Harris after her mother died, to immerse her ashes in the sea according to Hindu traditions.

Early Polling

8,06,51,974 mail-in and early in-person have cast their votes in 47 States across US. *Early polling* is a convenient voting process by which voters can vote before a scheduled election day. It can take place remotely, such as via postal voting, or in person, usually in designated early voting polling stations. There are 161.42 million registered voters in the US.

Swing States are Crucial

Both candidates desperately campaigned in seven crucial swing States that are likely to decide the eventual winner of the 2024 election soon: **Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, North Carolina, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.** As the race reached its final hours, Trump's final rally was in Grand Rapids in Michigan while Harris' was in Philadelphia yesterday, making their final pitches to crucial voters that could put them in the White House.

What are the swing States? Most States consistently vote for the same party in every election. This is why Presidential candidates target specific "swing States" where the vote could go either way rather than trying to win over voters across the whole country.

US Presidential election is a different ball game

The winner is not the person who overall gets the maximum number of votes. Instead, both candidates compete to win contests held across the 50 States. Roughly in line with the size of its population, each State has a certain number of **Electoral College** votes. For example, California has 54 electoral votes, while Texas has 40 and New York has 28. A handful of sparsely populated States like Wyoming, Alaska and North Dakota have the minimum of three.

Across the US, there are 538 votes in the Electoral College and the candidate who gets 270 or more will win the Presidency.

All but two States (Nebraska and Maine) have a 'winner-takes-all rule', so whichever candidate (either Trump or Harris) has the highest number of votes is awarded all its Electoral College votes. For example, if a candidate wins 50.1% of the vote in Texas, they are given all of the State's 40 electoral votes.

It is possible for a candidate to win the most votes nationally, as Hillary Clinton got in 2016, but still be defeated! US citizens aged 18 or over are eligible to vote.

Overall, 2024's **moment of truth** encapsulates deep divisions over leadership style and policy direction. India, with its diplomatic acumen, welcomes in equal measure —— be it Republican Trump, who wins through red States or Democratic Kamala Harris, who wins through blue States.

[Prof. G.L. Shekar, former Principal of National Institute of Engineering (NIE), Mysuru, is currently camping in New York]

One of the Polling Stations in the United States of America.

Voters standing in long queue to vote.

Rangavalli Ranga Sambhrama at Mini Theatre from tomorrow

Rameshwari Verma

N.S. Islahuddin

Satish Tiptur

Mysuru, Nov. 6 (VNS)- City-based theatre group Rangavalli, in association with the Directorate of Kannada & Culture, Bengaluru and Vijaya Vittala Educational Institutions (VVEI), Mysuru, has organised a 4-day Theatre Festival **'Rangavalli Ranga Sambhrama - 2024 at Mini Theatre (Kiru Rangamandira) in Kalamandira premises here from Nov. 7 to 10.**

The Fest will be inaugurated by senior theatre artiste Rameshwari Verma on Nov. 7 at 6 pm. Film Director N.S. Islahuddin will be the chief guest. Department of Kannada & Culture Joint Director V.N. Mallikarjunaswamy and Assistant Director Dr. M.D. Sudarshan will be the guests of honour. Rangayana Director Satish Tiptur will preside. Rangavalli Founder-Member and Trustee H.R. Raviprasad and Treasurer & Festival Committee Convenor Manjunath Shastri will be present. Inaugural ceremony will be followed by 'Ranga Sangeethanjali,' a theatre songs prog. by State Award Winner Y.M. Puttannaiah and troupe from 6.30 pm.

The four-day Fest will feature staging of plays by theatre troupes from Bengaluru and Mangaluru and cultural programmes by Mysore Police Band, Light Music by Nithin Rajaram Shastry and Bharat Brass Band. While entry for cultural programmes is free, Rs. 100 per ticket is charged to watch the plays.

SCHEDULE

Nov. 7 (Thursday)

Time: 6.30 pm

'Ranga Sangeethanjali'
by State Award Winner
Y.M. Puttannaiah and troupe

Nov. 8 (Friday)

Time: 5.30 pm

Mass Band by **Mysore Police Band**

Time : 7 pm

Play	:	**Natyadevacharite**
Source	:	Moliere
Kannada Adaptation	:	Krishna Hebbale and Hemanth Kumar
Direction	:	Prithvi Venugopal
Troupe	:	Sanchaya, Bengaluru.

Synopsis: In the tradition of 17th-century French Renaissance plays, Molière, known for his unique wit, has remained beloved by audiences of all classes, from his time to the present. By following the model of characters, settings and dramatic elements typical of comedy, Molière also served as a mirror to the social realities of his time.

The play *Natyadevacharite* revolves around a fraudulent religious leader who deceives a middle-class family in the name of faith. The household servant grows suspicious of the religious leader who, under the guise of spirituality, manipulates the family. Through a series of dramatic turns, his true colours are eventually revealed.

This play, reportedly written by Molière to point at a particular religious organisation of his era, is a satire that incisively critiques religious hypocrisy and pretence across all times and places.

Nov. 9 (Saturday)

Time: 5.30 pm

'Sugama Sangeetha'
(Light Music)
by **Nithin Rajaram Shastry**
and troupe, Mysuru

Time: 7 pm

Play	:	**A Friend Beyond the Fence**
Stage, Puppet Design & Direction	:	Shravan Heggodu
Troupe	:	Kalabhi, Mangaluru

Synopsis: This play is based on a poignant story set in a concentration camp in Poland during the Second World War. The narrative centres on a deep bond of friendship between two innocent eight-year-old boys—Alex, the son of a Nazi commander and Ethan, a Jewish boy — despite being separated by barbed wire. A baby elephant named 'Timbo,' who shares a close friendship with the Jewish boy, stands as a symbol of friendship amid the daily horrors of the camp.

Renowned for his innovative theatre style and puppetry, director Shravan Heggodu, acclaimed for works like *Rex Hours* and *The Giving Tree,* has directed this play. Inspired by both fictional and real stories, Shravan Heggodu has crafted this play to depict the horrors inflicted on Jewish people by Nazi racial hatred, moving the audience through the perspective of two innocent children.

Nov. 10 (Sunday)

Time: 4.30 pm
Brass Band performance by **Bharat Brass Band,** Gandhinagar, Mysuru

Time: 7 pm

Play	:	**Shivoham**
Design, Music and Direction	:	Ganesh Mandarthi
Troupe	:	Chronicles of India, Bengaluru

Synopsis: This is both a mythological and social play featuring two intertwined stories. One revolves around the tales of Lord Shiva, while the other focuses on a character representing Shiva in a village setting. Shiva is an ancient symbol of our land, revered by the backward community. He is known as Natashekhara, the yogi who burns desire and also as a figure entangled in the complexities of love and family.

In parallel, there is a character who embodies a revolutionary spirit and a lover lamenting lost love. The female characters challenge male arrogance and societal constraints, often triumphing in their struggles.

The dreams of the character representing Shiva remain unfulfilled, reflecting the ongoing unfulfilled dreams of the backward community. Shiva exists in disarray, frequently escaping the coherence of his character, which is why this play feels both cohesive and disjointed, much like our own lives.

For details, contact Rangavalli
Secretary B. Rajesh
on **Mob: 94488-71815**
Manjunath Shastri
on **Mob: 99016-26701**
H.R. Raviprasad
on **Mob: 99646-56482**

WORD OF THE DAY

Omniscient

Pronunciation: ahm-NISH-unt (adjective).
Meaning: Omniscient describes someone or something with unlimited knowledge or understanding.
Origin: One who is omniscient literally knows all. The word omniscient traces back to two Latin roots: omni-, meaning "all" or "universally," and the noun scientia, meaning "knowledge." You will recognise omni- as the prefix that tells all in such words as omnivorous ("eating all," or in actual use, "eating both plants and animals") and omnipotent ("all-powerful"). Scientia comes from the Latin verb scīre, meaning "to know," which likewise has a number of other knowledge-related descendants in English, including conscience, science, and prescience (meaning "foreknowledge").
Example: "The Abrahamic faiths conceive of God as an omniscient creator and generally abjure gambling as a result; one of the first laws passed by the Puritans in Massachusetts Bay Colony banned the possession of cards, dice, or gaming tables." — Idrees Kahloon, The New Yorker, 2 Sept. 2024.

THE ODD WORD

Oblectation

Enjoyment; pleasure.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Off the hook

Meaning: When you are freed from an obligation, you're said to be 'off the hook.'
Origin: The origin of the phrase 'Off the hook' can be found in fishing; a fish on the hook has been caught and is considered to be out of options; it's trapped unless it is released. Just like a fish off the hook, someone who's "off the hook" has been released from obligations or commitments.
Example: "You're lucky; it turns out that Dad never heard you come in late last night." Answer: "Great, that means I'm off the hook!"

QUOTE BOX

Beauty without grace is hook without the bait.— **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

MIRROR WALL

Answer: Mirror mirror on the wall.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

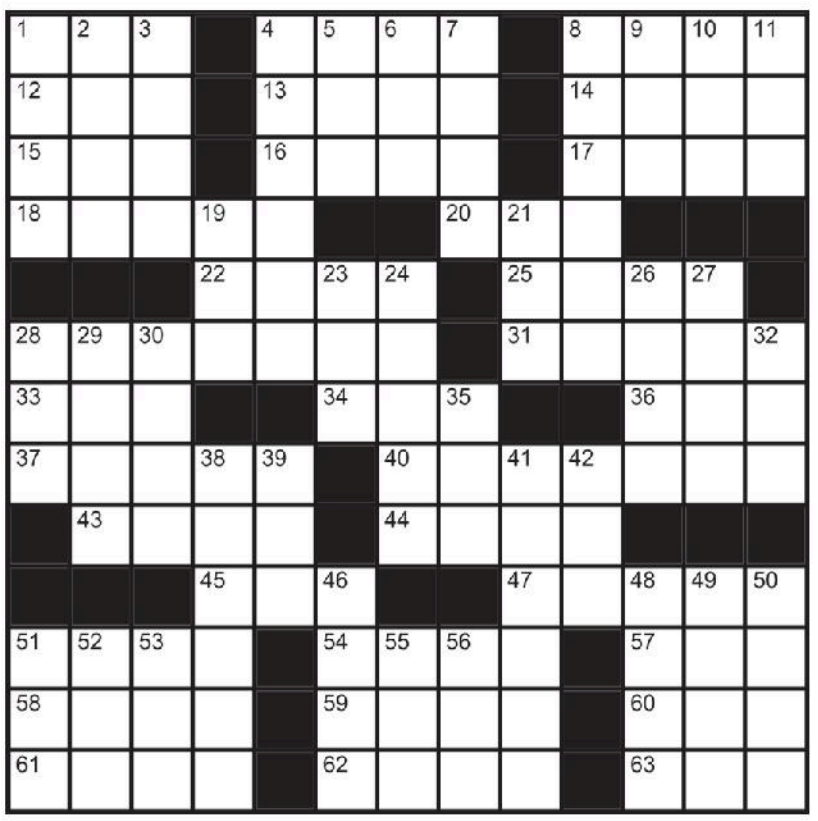
1 Empty space, interval
4 Hindu god of fire
8 Slender
12 Modern: pref.
13 Heath
14 Exchange fee
15 Upper limb
16 Priestly robes
17 Berlin negative
18 Yellowish-brown gemstone
20 Geometric proof is complete
22 Ransack
25 Indonesian island
28 Television aerial
31 Movement of the eyelids
33 'Bravo!'
34 U-turn from WSW
36 Noah's boat
37 Dairy topping
40 Shine, sparkle or twinkle
43 End piece
44 Gumbo vegetable
45 Mr Morrison of the Doors
47 Is aware of
51 Sweetheart
54 Morales of movies
57 "Bad Behaviour" star Stephen
58 Donation to poor
59 Norse god
60 Pounds abbr
61 Surfeit or excess
62 Part of a plane
63 The letter "S"

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

W	H	O	■	O	W	E	S	■	■	L	P	S
O	U	R	■	P	E	N	T	A	■	I	R	K
N	M	S	■	E	N	A	C	T	■	B	O	Y
■	■	H	A	N	D	■	■	O	N	Y	X	■
T	W	I	N	■	■	R	U	N	W	A	Y	■
T	I	N	Y	■	D	I	S	C	S	■	■	■
S	T	E	■	L	E	V	E	E	■	B	A	S
■	■	■	M	O	N	A	D	■	M	E	M	O
■	P	A	S	C	A	L	■	■	I	N	C	H
■	R	A	G	A	■	■	M	A	R	E	■	■
C	O	D	■	T	A	X	I	S	■	F	I	E
R	U	M	■	E	L	V	E	S	■	I	N	T
I	D	I	■	■	F	I	N	N	■	T	C	A

DOWN

1 Flying pest
2 Flight prefix
3 Majestic display
4 Great river
5 Mass
6 Wealthy person - "bon" anagram?
7 Dessert Storm place?
8 Item of footwear
9 Large, abbr.
10 Latin trio
11 "My" in French ?
19 Type of beer
21 Flow back
23 Undivided
24 It takes two to _____?
26 Oasis lead singer ___ Gallagher
27 Concerning, in legal terms (2,2)
28 Pendulum's path
29 Undercover cop, in short
30 English footballer ___ Walcott
32 IPL team from Kolkata
35 Large deer
38 Fix or straighten
39 May in France
41 Annoying or irritating
42 Adult male
46 Siamese cry?
48 Shield or heraldic border
49 They are woven by spiders
50 Impudence
51 Purse or a satchel
52 Former measure of length
53 Atomic mass unit
55 Star Wars, initially
56 Scots "own"



SUDOKU

		8			5	1	7	
5								
	7			3	1	8	9	
2					4		1	
				5				
	3		9					6
	8	1	5	4			2	
								1
	5	9	3			4		

Answer to previous puzzle

8	9	4	7	6	3	5	2	1
6	5	7	4	2	1	3	8	9
3	1	2	8	5	9	7	4	6
2	4	5	6	8	7	9	1	3
9	8	3	5	1	4	2	6	7
7	6	1	9	3	2	8	5	4
4	3	8	2	7	6	1	9	5
5	7	6	1	9	8	4	3	2
1	2	9	3	4	5	6	7	8

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

MXNULW UZ IZHJ XWUHXUXZW. XU OXMM

ULMM IZH LSLJIUAXWQ IZH WLLT UZ FWZO.

TODAY'S CLUE: Q EQUALS G

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: They are slaves who fear to speak for the fallen and the weak.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Woodlands Theatre** — Ph: 2422871
  Bagheera (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** — Ph: 2443568
  Bagheera (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — Mob: 99008-20093
  Yalakunni (K) - 4 Shows
- **Sangam Theatre** — Ph: 2520494
  Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 (H) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — Mob: 98454-14691
  Anjada Gandu (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — Ph: 2420885
  Yalakunni (K) - 2 Shows; *Singham Again (H)* - 2 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** — Mob: 98863-25207
  The Hunter (H) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — Ph: 2423554
  Amaran (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — Ph: 2521923
  Amaran (K) - 4 Shows
- **Thibbadevi Theatre** — Ph: 2452958
  Vettaiyan (Ta) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Lucky Baskhar (Ma)	(S-1)	9.55 am; (S-2) 10.30 pm
Lucky Baskhar (Te)	(S-2)	7.30 pm
Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 (H)	(S-1)	12.55 pm, 4 pm, 10.20 pm
Amaran (Ta)	(S-1)	7.05 pm
	(S-2)	12.55 pm, 4.15 pm
	(S-3)	9.55 am
Venom: The Last Dance (E)	(S-2)	10.40 am
Singham Again (H)	(S-3)	1.15 pm, 4.10 pm
		7.05 pm, 10 pm
Bagheera (K)	(S-4)	9.50 am, 1 pm, 4.05 pm
		7.15 pm, 10.25 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Amaran (K)	:	10.00 am
Amaran (Ta)	:	1.10 pm, 3.55 pm, 6.50 pm, 10 pm
Singham Again (H)	:	10 am, 1.10 pm, 4.20 pm, 10 pm
Bagheera (K)	:	10.05 am, 12.45 pm, 3.20 pm
		6.25 pm, 9.30 pm
Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 (H)	:	10.10 am, 3.50 pm, 7.05 pm
Venom: The Last Dance (E-3D)	:	1.10 pm
Lucky Baskhar (Te)	:	7.05 pm
Brother (Ta)	:	9.55 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

Bagheera (K)	:	9 am, 11.30 am, 12.20 pm
		2.50 pm, 3.40 pm, 6.10 pm,
		7 pm, 9.30 pm, 10.20 pm
Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 (H)	:	9.05 am, 12.25 pm, 3.40 pm
		6.55 pm, 10.15 pm
KA (2024) (Te)	:	9.15 am, 3.45 pm
Amaran (Ta)	:	9.30 am, 3.35 pm, 7.05 pm
		10.30 pm, 10.30 pm
Singham Again (H)	:	9.50 am, 1 pm, 4.10 pm
		7:20 pm, 10.30 pm
Lucky Baskhar (Te)	:	12.30 pm, 7.05 pm
Venom: The Last Dance (E-3D)	:	1 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 (H)	:	8.45 am, 3.40 pm, 7.05 pm, 10.30 pm
Lucky Baskhar (Te)	:	8.50 am, 7.15 pm
Bagheera (K)	:	9 am, 12.20 pm, 3.40 pm
		7 pm, 10.20 pm
Singham Again (H)	:	9.50 am, 1 pm, 4.10 pm
		7.20 pm, 10.30 pm
Amaran (Ta)	:	12.05 pm, 10.30 pm
Amaran (K)	:	12.05 pm, 3.40 pm

INOX — LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob: 7829999465

Lucky Baskhar (Te)	:	8.50 am, 3.50 pm
Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 (H)	:	8.55 am, 12 noon, 6.45 pm, 10.15 pm
Bagheera (K)	:	9 am, 12.20 pm, 3.25 pm, 3.40 pm
		7 pm, 9.50 pm
Singham Again (H)	:	9.10 am, 12.20 pm, 3.30 pm
		6.40 pm, 10.20 pm
Amaran (Ta)	:	12.20 pm, 7 pm, 10.30 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Mob: 9606976757

Amaran (Ta)	:	9 am, 12.30 pm, 6.45 pm
Singham Again (H)	:	9 am, 12.35 pm, 3.30 pm
		7.10 pm, 10 pm
Bagheera (K)	:	9.10 am, 12.10 pm, 12.30 pm
		3.50 pm, 6.40 pm, 7.10 pm
		10.30 pm
Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3 (H)	:	9.10 am, 3.45 pm, 10.20 pm
Lucky baskhar (Te)	:	3.45 pm, 10.10 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there is no minimum audience of 15.

Suttur Jatra Mahotsava: Troupes invited for Rural Theatre Show

Mysuru, Nov. 6 (BS)- As part of Adi Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeshwara Shivayogigalavara Jatra Mahotsava, scheduled to be held from Jan. 26 to 31, 2025, Rural Theatre Show has been organised at Suttur Srikshetra in Nanjangud taluk of the district.

Applications have been invited from theatre troupes to stage mythological and historical plays and the life story of Sharanas. Properties will be provided for the drama troupes selected to stage the play. Memento and certificate of appreciation will be given to participating troupes.

The theatre troupes should pay Rs. 500 for the application and submit the duly filled in application to Secretary, Suttur Jatra Mahotsava Samiti, Jagadguru Sri Shivarathri Rajendra Circle, Mysuru-570004 before Nov. 30, 2024.

The drama troupes will be selected after the preliminary meeting of the Jatra Mahotsava, organised on the occasion of *Punyaradhane* of Dr Sri Shivarathri Rajendra Swamiji on Dec. 6, 2024. The applicants should participate in the selection process and those who abstain from the process won't be considered for selection.

For further details, directly contact the office of Jatra Mahotsava at JSS Mahavidyapeeth or call Convener M. Gangadhar on Ph: 0821-2548212 (311) or Mob: 74836-28380, according to a press release from Prof. H.B. Revanna, Convener.

EVENTS TODAY (NOV. 6)

- **Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI):** Dhamani 24, Kannada Rajyotsava elebrations, Bhuvaneshwari Devi Rathotsava, **3.30 pm;** Stage Programme - MMC&RI Dean & Director Dr. K.R. Dakshayani presides, *Padma Shree* awardee Psychiatrist & writer Dr. C.R. Chandrashekar chief guest, MMC&RI Platinum Jubilee Hall, J.K. Grounds, **5.30 pm.**
- **Inchara Kalakshetra:** Handmade (Paper Pulp) Dolls Show by K.S. Raghavendra, a 75-year-old artist from city, 'Inchara Kalakshetra,' 149/150, 4th Cross, 3rd Main, Mahadeshwaranagara 2nd Stage, Vijayanagar, Mysuru, **4 pm to 8 pm.**
- **Sharanu Vishwavachana Foundation, Mysuru:** Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations and releasing of M.A. Neelambika's books 'Vachana Kathaloka' and 'Nudi Deepti,' Sri Chidananda Swamiji and Sri Vidwan Siddamalla Swamiji will grace the occasion, Journalist Amshi Prasannakumar releases the book, Sri Nataraja Pratishtana Special Officer Dr. S. Shivarajappa speaks about the book, Foundation Founder Vachana Kumaraswamy presides, Foundation Founder Roopa Kumaraswamy delivers keynote address, Foundation President Anil Kumar Vajantri will be present, Sri Nataraja auditorium, Hosmutt, Shankara Mutt, Khille Mohalla, **5 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (NOV. 7)

- **Inchara Kalakshetra:** Handmade (Paper Pulp) Dolls Show by K.S. Raghavendra, 'Inchara Kalakshetra,' Vijayanagar, Mysuru, **10 am to 1 pm and 4 pm to 8 pm.**
- **SBRR Mahajana First Grade College:** Lecture and interaction programme commemorating Lokmata Ahilyabai Holkar Janma Trishatabdhi, retd. Tahsildar & columnist Dr. V. Ranganath delivers lecture, College Principal Dr. B.R. Jayakumari presides, College premises, Jayalakshmipuram, **10.30 am.**
- **University of Mysore (UoM):** 69th Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations, Film Producer & Director, writer Nagatihalli Chandrashekar chief guest, special lecture on 'Namma Kannadavannu Vishwadarjegerisuva Sadhyategalu,' UoM Vice-Chancellor Prof. N.K. Lokanath presides, Crawford Hall, **11 am.**
- **Exhibition Authority:** Dasara Expo, Exhibition Grounds, **2.30 pm to 8.30 pm.**
- **Sri Ramakrishna Ashram, Mysuru:** Swami Jnanayoganandaji speaks on 'Srimad Bhagavad Gita,' Ashram premises, Ashram premises, Yadavagiri, **6 pm to 6.50 pm.**

Expo of historical documents, photos

Mysuru, Nov. 6- As part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of renaming of Mysore State as Karnataka State (Suvarna Karnataka 50), the Karnataka State Archives Department, Divisional Archives Officer, Mysuru and the Kannada Department and Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Mysore Makkala Koota and Shri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara (MMK&SDM) Women's College, Mysuru, have jointly organised an exhibition of historical documents and photographs at the College premises in Krishnamurthypuram from Nov. 7 to 9.

Karnataka State Archives Department Director Dr. Gavisiddaiah will inaugurate the three-day the exhibition tomorrow at 10.30 am.

College Principal Prof. N. Bharathi will preside. Retired Kannada Professor of Kuvempu Institute of Kannada Studies (KIKS) Dr. Preeti Shubhachandra and Divisional Archives Office-Mysuru Senior Assistant Director H.L. Manjunath will be the chief guests. MMK&SDM Girls PU College Principal Nayana Kumari, IQAC Convenor Prof. K.S. Sukrita and Kannada Department Head Dr. Vinoda will be present.

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